

No vendors on beach

Licenses stymied by concern over legalities, trash and traffic

By Debra Filcman
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DUXBURY — With an increased number of vendors applying for licenses to peddle on Duxbury Beach this summer, selectmen vowed Monday to establish a policy — for next summer.

This came as disappointing news to David and Anne Tonaszuck of A&D Enterprises, who applied for a license to sell boxed lunches on the beach this summer.

The couple, who own and operate Quizno's Sub Shop, located on the border between Marshfield and Pembroke, said they wanted to offer their service to the town and were amenable to any restrictions it wanted to place on the endeavor with regards to location, days and times.

The Tonaszucks said they would transport and sell their goods from their catering truck and would provide their own trash receptacles, which would then be emptied into the dumpster they maintain in Pembroke.

"For people who forgot to bring lunch or just threw something together for the kids, then they'd be able to get something for themselves," Anne Tonaszuck said.

The application was denied, despite their offer to donate 1 percent of the proceeds to the town or the beach reservation.

The harbormaster and beach committee members expressed concerns about trash ending up littering the beach and increased traffic would cause a danger to residents, especially children running through the parking lot. Selectmen agreed.

"No matter what we say, people are determined to drive across that bridge just to be told they need a beach sticker to park there," selectman Betsy Sullivan said. "They just can't help themselves, so they have to make a loop."

The constant traffic circling the bridge and parking lot was one of the board's main concerns.

Beach committee chairman Joe Conway said his group took up the issue of vendors on the beach at its June meeting.

The committee was in agreement, he said, that ven-



Staff photo/Susan Haney

Vendors on hold — Selectmen are being strict on any vendors applying for licenses for Duxbury beach.

dors would be an unnecessary addition to the beach and that they didn't want businesses competing with the Pavillion.

Also, he said, the committee believed it would be unlawful under its contract to sublease the beach to vendors.

Selectman Andre Martecchini agreed that, since the beach does not belong to the town, it would be unfair to go against the committee's wishes.

"I think this puts us in an awkward position," Martecchini said. "We may be able to authorize the license for the physical act, but we don't own that property."

"And how can we approve this and then not approve the next one?" he asked.

Martecchini said it was a matter of common courtesy to abide by the committee's preferences.

Later that evening, when Little Jimmy's Italian Ice came up on the agenda, the board's response was the same. That vendor's license was also denied.

Sullivan acknowledged that the family plans of the vendors are dependent on these decisions and said the board will work hard to come up with a fair and clear policy before next summer.